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in the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Yvette L. Hammonds et al. Docket No.: 17,704
Serial No.: 10/037,277 Group No.: 3761
Confirmation No.: 6833 Examiner: Unknown
Filed: December 20, 2001 Date: May 20, 2002
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ATTACHING ABSORBENT ARTICLES

**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent application to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/037,287 filed December 20, 2001, by
Denise R. Couture et al. for "MECHANICAL FASTENING SYSTEM HAVING
ORTHOGONALLY ORIENTED ENGAGEMENT MEMBERS."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/037,278 filed December 20, 2001, by
Yvette L. Hammonds et al. for "SECONDARY ATTACHMENT SYSTEM FOR
PERSONAL CARE ARTICLE."

This application is not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449; however, a copy of this application is provided herewith.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

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Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-7277.

Respectfully submitted,

YVETTE L. HAMMONDS ET AL.

By: 

Karl V. Sidor

Registration No.: 32,597



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PATENT

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date
2 Page(s) of PTO Form 1449
28 Document(s)

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

on: May 20, 2002

Nanette A. Dotts

(Type or print name of person mailing paper)

Nanette A. Dotts
(Signature of person mailing paper)

(Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a) [8-21])

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